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### 04/01/1987 - EIU's Annual Panther Club Fund Drive

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# Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY - Charleston, IL 61920  
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4/1/87

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL.--Eastern Illinois University's annual Panther Club fund drive in support of EIU athletics begins Wednesday, April 1.

Over 150 volunteers working through the auspices of the athletic department and Panther Club organization will attempt to raise \$270,000 during the month of April.

The pledge drive commissioner will again be Charleston attorney OGDEN BRAINARD. He along with EIU Athletic Director R.C. JOHNSON and new Panther Club officers, President BOB KOVACK and Vice-President CHARLIE WHITE, both of Mattoon, have devised the game plan.

"Our goal this year is to go for a record \$270,000," explains JOHNSON. "Last year we set the goal at \$225,000 but reached a new record when over \$260,000 was pledged so we believe our goal is challenging but attainable.

"We're striving for \$165,000 cash and \$105,000 in-kind services plus we want to attract 120 new members . . . I believe we can do it because last year we set out to get 90 new members and surpassed that. Our staff, board of directors and workers are excited about the campaign."

We will have the same basic approach . . . 150 active fund raisers soliciting through one-on-one contact. We will have the three teams competing for awards at the end of the campaign."

A member of the Panther Club Board of Directors and a member of the Eastern Illinois athletic department will head each of the three teams formed by the letters EIU.

Team E is captained by Mary Komada of Charleston and athletic promotions director Paul Lueken. Team I is headed by Jim Erdmann of

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Charleston and Associate Athletic Director Joan Schmidt. Team U is led by Dick Stark of Charleston and Associate Athletic Director Ron Paap.

Board members on Team E are Jerry Bennett, Bruce Bernardi, Mike David, Ron Dawes, Fred Edgar, Bill Glenn, Sonny Greco, Allan Heath, Bob Hickman, Dave Musgrave, Ed McClane, Roger Roberson, Eli Sidwell, Bill Skinner, Ray Suddarth and Frank Vala.

Team I board members are Adonna Bennett, Ted Bertuca, Dick Cain, Roger Dettro, Obed Henderson, Carl Koerner, Paul Koerner, Dan Marvin, Randy Richardson, Earl Walden, Jack Wetzell and Charlie White.

Team U is composed of board members Tom Comer, Olga Durham, Howard Eads, Norm Endsley, Dean Gowin, Jim Hatfield, Phil Kerz, Bob Kovack, Tim Newell, Bob Oetting, J.W. Oglesby, Bob Rupel and Jim Senior.

There are seven membership levels, \$25, 100, 250, 500, 1000, 3000 and 10,000. The drive will officially conclude with a fourth quarter report on Wednesday, April 29. The annual Victory/Awards Banquet will be Friday, May 8.

CARL KOERNER OF EFFINGHAM, a Panther Club past president, was honored as the Most Valuable Player for the second year in a row last spring as he raised a record \$14,975.

Team U, captained by KOVACK, raised a record \$91,475 to win the Most Valuable Team award.

ALLAN HEATH OF ROBINSON, also a past president, was the recipient of the fifth GLEN HESLER award which is presented annually to an individual who makes an outstanding contribution throughout the year to EIU athletics.